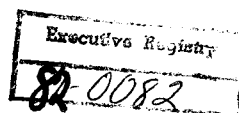


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DDI 16 064-82



6 January 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Deputy Director for Intelligence

FROM: [REDACTED]
Director of Global Issues

25X1

SUBJECT: Talking Points on Instability, Subversion,
and Terrorism1. Action Requested: None.

2. Background: The attached material has been pulled together for your use at the 12 January PFIAB meeting. The talking points were prepared in consultation with [REDACTED]. I have asked [REDACTED] Chief of the International Issues Division in OGI to provide you with whatever support you need for the meeting. He would be available to go with you if necessary.

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Attachments:
As stated

B-204

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SUBJECT: Talking Points on Instability, Subversion, and Terrorism

DD/OGI [REDACTED] 6 Jan 82)

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TALKING POINTS ON INSTABILITY, SUBVERSION, AND TERRORISM

Political instability stems from domestic social and/or economic discontents that overwhelm the existing government's ability to handle.

Political instability often leads to political violence--insurrection, insurgency and/or terrorism--designed to change policy or regime.

Insurgents often adopt terrorist tactics; terrorism--domestic and international--is an extreme form of political violence.

The dangers to US interests posed by political violence vary widely.

They fall into two main categories:

--danger to US persons and facilities

about 40% of the victims of international terrorist incidents are US citizens

the number of such attacks has grown in each of the past three years

--danger to US foreign policy interests

there are more governments friendly to us which are vulnerable to political violence than governments which are hostile to us

terrorism that crosses borders, in particular, tends to undermine the world order on which the US depends to protect its interests

Four fairly distinct types of political violence:

I. Domestic political violence that adopts terrorist tactics

Uruguay's Tupamaros
Argentina in the mid 1970s
Turkey in the late 1970s
Iran 1978 onwards

In the first three, the military stepped in hard to suppress the terrorism--regimes changed but that did not significantly affect these governments attitudes towards the US or the USSR.

In Iran--the terrorist supported side won--and is hostile towards us.

In all four, US persons and property were the victims of terrorism.

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II. "Unpopular" Terrorism

Red Brigades in Italy
Red Army Factions (Baader-Meinhof) in West Germany

Until General Dozier was kidnapped, no US victims of RB; now they may target more American officials
The RAF has attacked Americans and probably will again.

These groups, hard as they are to suppress, do not affect internal political stability; nor are these governments likely to change their present policies because of groups like the Red Brigades or the RAF. They pose a rising threat to US persons and property, however, because they may step up attacks on US targets in an attempt to exploit unpopular or controversial US policies. To the extent the US becomes more assertive, these groups are likely to become more threatening.

III. Ethnic or Irredentist Violence

Provincial Irish Republican Army (PIRA)
Basque Separatists (ETA)
The PLO

The first two do not target Americans as such, nor do we expect them to. American victims of their terrorist violence are innocent bystanders--and few in number.

PIRA and ETA are not actively supported by external powers. They have caused and will cause much trouble. PIRA poses relatively little danger to the established political system or to US interests. ETA activities might contribute to a military coup in Spain, however.

Palestinian groups have not targetted US persons or facilities in the last 4 - 5 years.

They may come to that--in which case, danger to US persons, particularly officials, would rise sharply, especially if they make a common cause with indigenous terrorists in Western Europe.

The main danger they pose to US interests is that they contribute to the general instability in the region.

IV. Domestic Instability and Political Violence Fanned or Manipulated by External Powers

The most complex type
The most dangerous to US foreign policy

Central America-Cuban, Soviet, and other anti-US supporters to the Sandinistas in Nicaragua.

Whole region is now threatened

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Outlook

More of all four types of political violence

More danger to US persons

Higher danger of type 4 situations

Caribbean Basin
Southern Africa
Middle East

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